

# **IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For release, September 30, 2004**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

**Scott W. Aigner, M.D.**, a 45 year-old physician practicing in Dubuque, Iowa, had disciplinary charges filed against his Iowa medical license. On September 28, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Aigner with failing to comply with an agreement that he entered into with the Iowa Physician Health Program (IPHP) in violation of the laws and regulations in Iowa and with the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety as a result of a mental or physical condition. The Board received information indicating that Dr. Aigner suffers from a mental health condition and a chronic pain condition which may impair his ability to practice medicine in a safe manner. Dr. Aigner failed to complete an evaluation as directed by the IPHP. A hearing on the Iowa charges is scheduled for November 17, 2004.

**Philip W. First, D.O.**, a 53 year-old physician practicing in Monticello, Iowa, had a disciplinary decision issued by the Board. On January 22, 2004, the Board charged Dr. First with failing to ensure that an emergency medical service under his direction appropriately utilized established state and national trauma criteria and protocol which placed numerous trauma patients at serious risk. A contested case hearing was held before the Board and the Board concluded that the Dr. First repeatedly deviated from the minimum standard of care required of medical directors for ambulance services in the state of Iowa. The Board issued Dr. First a Citation and Warning and permanently prohibited him from serving as the Medical Director for any ambulance service in the state of Iowa.

**Elizabeth Sergi, D.O.**, a 43 year-old physician formerly practicing in Urbandale, Iowa, had a disciplinary decision issued by the Board. The Board received information indicating that Dr. Sergi may suffer from a condition which impairs her ability to practice medicine in a safe manner. On April 8, 2004, the Board issued an Order that required Dr. Sergi to complete a comprehensive physical, neuropsychological and substance abuse evaluation at a Board-approved program. Dr. Sergi failed to complete the evaluation within the time period specified. On May 4, 2004, the Board charged Dr. Sergi with violating the Board Order. On September 2, 2004, a contested case hearing was held before the Board and the Board concluded that Dr. Sergi is in violation of the Board Order. The Board suspended Dr. Sergi's Iowa medical license indefinitely until she completes the Board-ordered evaluation and the Board determines that she is safe to return to the practice of medicine.